

Official Notice
Fire Restrictions in Gunnison County

In accordance with Gunnison County Resolution signed by the County Commissioners on June 27th 2006, the Gunnison County Sheriff, in a cooperative effort with the United States Forest Service Gunnison Ranger District, Gunnison Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management, United States National Park Service, Hinsdale County, and Saguache County issues the following official notice:

Due to persistent warm and dry weather conditions, which have created very high fire danger in Gunnison County, it is the order of the Gunnison County Fire Warden/Gunnison County Sheriff and the Gunnison County Board of Commissioners that effective Wednesday, June 28th 2006 at 08:00 am, all unincorporated areas of Gunnison, Hinsdale and Saguache County's, and State and Federal lands are under fire restriction. Open burning and the use of any fireworks are prohibited to help ensure the well being of all residents and visitors in this area.

This fire restriction forbids any outdoor fire, including, but not limited to campfires, warming fires, agricultural burning, and trash or slash pile burns. It also includes smoking, except with-in buildings and vehicles, as established by law.

Fires are only permitted in developed, designated, signed campgrounds and picnic areas with permanent fire grates. Use of pressurized fuel stoves/grills is permitted in most areas. Under this restriction, charcoal grills are only permitted at private residences, but not on any public lands.

Use of fireworks on all State, Federal and unincorporated County lands is prohibited. The public, government sanctioned fireworks displays are still scheduled to be held, dependant upon weather conditions.

These restrictions also prohibit the operation of a chainsaw with out an approved spark arrester. Chainsaw operator is required to have in close proximity of the work area a pressurized 8 oz or more chemical fire extinguisher and a size O or larger pointed shovel with an over-all length of 36". Use of welding or acetylene torch equipment shall only be conducted in an area that has been cleared of all combustible materials for at least 10 feet on all sides of the work area.

As provided by Colorado Revised Statutes, any person responsible for starting a fire while these restrictions are in place may be held accountable for all fire suppression costs incurred as well as facing possible criminal charges.

Rick Murdie
Gunnison Sheriff

Jerry Chonka
Fire Management Officer, USFS

Dennis Spritzer
Gunnison Fire Marshal

Scott Morrill
Gunnison County Emergency Management